

Specifically, the undersigned has been informed that the deceased inventor's wife and sole heir at the time of the Decision, Ms. Yuko Takahashi, passed away on or about June 27, 2003. At present, the sole heirs of the deceased inventor's estate are his three children, Mr. Tetsuya Takahashi, Ms. Kaori Takahashi and Ms. Sayuri Takahashi ("the Takahashi children").

Attached hereto therefore is a Declaration under 37 CFR §1.63 which has been executed by the surviving inventor, Mr. Tohru HARUNA and each of the Takahashi children as sole heirs of their father's estate and on behalf of their deceased father, Masayuki TAKAHASHI.¹ An unequivocal statement to that effect appears in the body of the Declaration immediately prior to the signature blocks for each of the Takahashi children.

In view of the fundamentally changed circumstances described above, therefore, it is believed that all issues raised in the Decision have been rendered moot and that this application is in good order for acceptance under the provisions of Rule 42. Such favorable action is solicited.

III. FEE AUTHORIZATION

It is believed that all fees required to be submitted with this paper have been attached hereto.²

However, in the event that any fee is deemed necessary in order for the Office to act on this petition, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our **Account No. 14-1140**.

¹ It will be observed that all pertinent information including the deceased inventor's citizenship and last address appears on the accompanying Declaration as well.

² The penultimate paragraph on page 4 of the Decision notes that no additional petition fee is required.

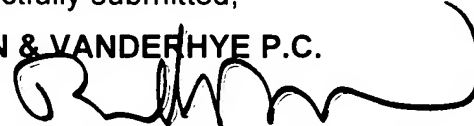
IV. CONCLUSION

An early and favorable reply to this petition is awaited. Should any small matter need to be resolved, however, the Petitions Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned to explore the most expeditious manner of addressing the same.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYTE P.C.

By:



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